

Appl. No. 10/002,781
Amtd. Dated February 27, 2006
Reply to Office Action of November 28, 2005

REMARKS

This Amendment responds to the office action dated November 28, 2005.

The examiner has rejected claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claim 6 is cancelled.

The examiner has rejected claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 13, 17, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Takeda (U.S. 6,229,622), hereafter referred to as Takeda.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the element of tagging the sub-jobs with an output mode code that is the same for all sub-jobs originating from a particular original print job. This element distinguishes the applicant's invention from the method taught in Takeda. Accordingly, claim 1 is now allowable in its amended form.

Claims 2, 10, and 11 are dependent on claim 1, which has been amended, and these claims comprise the limitations of claim 1 as amended. Claims 2, 10, and 11, by dependence on claim 1, are now allowable for the reasons stated above in relation to claim 1.

Claim 13 has been amended to include the element of tagging the sub-jobs with an output mode code that is the same for all sub-jobs originating from a particular original print job. This element distinguishes the applicant's invention from the method taught in Takeda. Accordingly, claim 13 is now allowable in its amended form.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the element of tagging the sub-jobs with an output mode code is the same for all sub-jobs originating from a particular original print job. This element distinguishes the applicant's invention from the method taught in Takeda. Accordingly, claim 17 is now allowable in its amended form.

Claim 18 has been amended to include the element of tagging the sub-jobs with an output mode code that is the same for all sub-jobs originating from a particular

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original print job. This element distinguishes the applicant's invention from the method taught in Takeda. Accordingly, claim 18 is now allowable in its amended form.

The examiner has rejected claims 3 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda (U.S. 6,229,622) and Keeney et al. (U.S. 6,748,471), hereafter referred to as Takeda and Keeney.

Claim 3, by dependence on claim 1, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said plurality of smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code wherein said output mode code is the same for all said smaller sub-jobs originating from the same original print job." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Keeney. Claim 3 is now allowable.

Claim 16 has been amended to include the element of a tagger for tagging the sub-jobs with an output mode code is the same for all sub-jobs originating from a particular original print job. This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Keeney. Claim 16 is now allowable in its amended form.

Claims 5, 6, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda (U.S. 6,229,622) and Hansen (U.S. 6,509,974), hereafter referred to as Takeda and Hansen.

Claim 5, by dependence on claim 1, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said plurality of smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code wherein said output mode code is the same for all said smaller sub-jobs originating from the same original print job." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Hansen. Claim 5 is now allowable.

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Claim 6 is cancelled.

Claim 9, by dependence on claim 1 through claim 5, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said plurality of smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code wherein said output mode code is the same for all said smaller sub-jobs originating from the same original print job." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Hansen. Claim 9 is now allowable.

The examiner has rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda (U.S. 6,229,622), Hansen (U.S. 6,509,974), and Utsunomiya et al. (U.S. 5,822,500), hereafter referred to as Takeda, Hansen, and Utsunomiya.

Claim 7, by dependence on claim 1 through claim 5, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said plurality of smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code wherein said output mode code is the same for all said smaller sub-jobs originating from the same original print job." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda, Hansen, and Utsunomiya. Claim 7 is now allowable.

The examiner has rejected claim 8 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda (U.S. 6,229,622), Hansen (U.S. 6,509,974), and Keeney et al. (U.S. 6,748,471), hereafter referred to as Takeda, Hansen, and Keeney.

Claim 8, by dependence on claim 1 through claim 5, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said plurality of smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code wherein said output mode code is the same for all said smaller sub-jobs originating from the same original print job." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda, Hansen, and Keeney. Claim 8 is now allowable.

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The examiner has rejected claims 12, 14, and 15 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeda (U.S. 6,229,622) and Rabjohns et al. (U.S. 5,697,040), hereafter referred to as Takeda and Rabjohns.

Claim 12, by dependence on claim 1, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said plurality of smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code wherein said output mode code is the same for all said smaller sub-jobs originating from the same original print job." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Rabjohns. Claim 12 is now allowable.

Claim 14 has been amended to include the element of tagging the sub-jobs with an output mode code. This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Rabjohns. Claim 14 is now allowable in its amended form.

Claim 15, by dependence on claim 14, as amended, now comprises the element of "tagging said smaller sub-jobs with an output mode code." This element is not taught in the combination of Takeda and Rabjohns. Claim 15 is now allowable.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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